



NCDO puts work in the global dimension of citizenship. To that end, NCDO carries out research, organises training sessions and encourages people to form an opinion on global themes by issuing publications and starting discussions about these themes.

Our vision

In the vision of NCDO, we live in an era of high-speed shifts. Emerging globalisation causes our lives to become closely interwoven with those of other global citizens. Among other things, this applies to the fields of safety, climate, financial stability, migration, energy and food security. Foreign aid and traditional foreign policies no longer are sufficient tools to shape our international responsibilities. The global problems have become too multiform for that. The usual divisions into north and south, rich and poor are superseded by the arrival of 'new' economies and structural poverty in traditionally rich parts of the world.

The current global problems such as a lack of raw materials and (fossil) fuels, climate change, inequality and poverty, 'failing' states and financial crises demand a joint approach and binding agreements at a global level. However, in our own country they also demand the deployment of 'non-state players', such as businesses, churches, schools, social organisations and citizens.

It is NCDO's core task to encourage that form of citizenship. It works on a citizenship that does not stop at the country's borders, it works on global citizenship. It works from the conviction that a sustainable and just world is everybody's business and that everyone can contribute to that. By making donations, by consuming 'responsibly', by saving energy, by holding your own politicians to account about 'coherent policies', or by becoming actively involved as a professional or private individual in tackling poverty and underdevelopment.

NCDO does not 'impose' global citizenship. As a knowledge centre in the fields of citizenship and international cooperation, it provides knowledge about global themes, it trains those already active, and it makes citizens aware of the opportunities to work on a sustainable and just world at different levels. NCDO explicitly does *not* focus on the cosmopolitan elite of global citizens alone. It also focuses on the 'hardworking Dutch' who have problems with growth in scale and internationalisation.

Our history

In terms of philosophy and objectives, NCDO consciously follows the footsteps of its first chairman, Prince Claus. Averse to patronising as he was, he felt that citizens at times had to have the opportunity to take personal responsibility. '*On ne développe pas, on se développe*' was his maxim. The organisation changed from NCO into NCDO (National Committee for Sustainable Development and International Collaboration), and moved from being a subsidy granter and campaign organisation to being a knowledge centre, but the basic principles remained in place.

Our task

Today, NCDO is an independent organisation which has been set a task for the period until 2015 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The task covers four 'domains' of global citizenship and international collaboration:

- research into global citizenship
- global citizenship in education and among youngsters
- widening the dialogue and discussion about international collaboration
- training and evaluation of activities regarding global citizenship.

Our activities

A selection of NCDO activities:

- Research among the Dutch population into knowledge, conduct and behaviour regarding global issues in the Global Citizenship Barometer.
- The Globalisation Series, with dossiers in the fields of Green Economy, Water and New Financial Instruments.
- The Global Development Atlas, which uses Open Data to visualise Dutch efforts around the world.
- The 'Where does my aid go' app, the first Dutch application that uses open data about foreign aid.
- Training for private initiators and professionals in the Global Citizenship Extension Project.
- Meeting and study place MyWorld.nl for private initiatives, and the three-monthly MyWorld magazine, in collaboration with the Partos and Partin trade associations and Wilde Ganzen.
- The Samsam children's magazine and website, for a total of 550,000 children in primary and secondary education.
- The OneWorld magazine and website, with 120,000 subscribers and 70,000 site visitors each month.
- Debates in collaboration with The Globalisation Lecture and Society for International Development (SID) and the OneWorld Live talk show.
- Fair Career Event, in collaboration with Nobiles/De Telegraaf Media Group
- Support from the think-tank on global themes, the World Connectors Round Table, in collaboration with SID.
- Support from the National Platform Rio+20, in collaboration with Agentschap.nl and the Social and Economic Council.

Our ambition

Everybody is entitled to sufficient and healthy food, to healthcare, to education, clean water, a roof over your head, access to knowledge and technology and to decent wages. The awareness of global connectedness is vital in order to bring a world to which everyone contributes and in which everybody counts on the basis of equality a step closer. NCDO fully commits itself to generating that awareness. It was much-needed back in 1970, and that has not changed more than forty-one years later.